

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
U.S. Application No. 10/673,436

**AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS**

Applicant submits herewith a formal replacement sheet for Figure 1.

Attachment: 1 Replacement Sheet

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-9 have been examined and have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and claims 1, 4 and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Also, the Examiner has indicated that claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8 and 9 contain allowable subject matter.

**I. Preliminary Matters**

The Examiner has objected to the drawings since they do not include reference signs CT1 and CT2. Accordingly, Applicant submits herewith a replacement formal drawing for Figure 1, and has amended the specification in a manner believed to overcome the objection.

The Examiner has objected to the Specification due to minor informalities. Accordingly, Applicant has amended the specification in a manner believed to overcome the objection (i.e., by correcting the typographical error). Applicant submits that no new matter has been added.

Also, the Examiner has objected to the title of the invention as not being descriptive of the invention to which the claims are directed. Accordingly, Applicant has amended the title in a manner believed to overcome the objection. Applicant submits that the title should not be construed to limit the scope of the claims.

## **II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph**

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. In particular, the Examiner maintains that the term “vertical” is unclear. Accordingly, Applicant has amended the claims in a manner believed to overcome the rejection.

## **III. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of JP 11-175951 to Kao (“Kao”) and U.S. Patent No. 4,916,564 to Fritsch (“Fritsch”)**

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 4 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kao in view of Fritsch.

### **A. Claim 1**

Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited references. As indicated by the Examiner, Kao, discussed in the Background Section of the present Application, discloses two cleaning tapes 13a and 13b that clean a running tape 1 (see Fig. 13). However, Kao fails to teach or suggest that the cleaning tapes 13a and 13b are made of a weft and waft as set forth in claim 1. Accordingly, the Examiner cites to the Fritsch reference.

Fritsch discloses the use of rayon satin as a cleaning material for magnetic discs (col. 2, lines 61-62). The Examiner cites to column 2, lines 3-4 which reads, “[t]he satin in the material provides smoothness to reduce the friction between the material and the magnetic head.”

Accordingly, Applicant assumes that the Examiner alleges that the satin discloses the claimed “weft.” However, the cited description of the rayon satin material fails to teach or suggest that the satin is exposed more on an outside portion of the cleaning material than the rayon. There is absolutely no description of the physical structure of the rayon satin that would teach or suggest the claimed arrangement of a weft and warp. Further, since there is no tape used in Fritsch, just the magnetic discs, there is no teaching that the satin (i.e., alleged weft) would be arranged perpendicular to a running direction of a tape. As disclosed in the non-limiting embodiment on page 5 lines 4-8, since the wefts are arranged vertically (or perpendicular to) a running direction of the tape, the dirt adhered to the surface of the tape can be efficiently removed. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Fritsch fails to cure the deficient teachings of Kao.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited references.

**B. Claims 4 and 7**

Since claims 4 and 7 are dependent upon claim 1, Applicant submits that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

**IV. Allowable Subject Matter**

As stated above, the Examiner has indicated that claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8 and 9 would be allowable if the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph is overcome. In view of the current amendments, Applicant submits that such rejections are overcome.

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**V. Conclusion**

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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